



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

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SBA ANNOUNCES JOSEPH MONTES AS REGION VI ADMINISTRATOR

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today the appointment of Joseph O. Montes as a regional administrator for the SBA, overseeing Region VI, which is headquartered in Dallas and includes Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico and Oklahoma.

“Both the SBA and small businesses of Region VI will benefit greatly from Joseph’s entrepreneurial and managerial skills and experience,” said SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto in welcoming Montes. “His policy and government background, together with his commitment to community service, will be a huge asset in this new role.”

Montes added: “I am committed to strengthening small businesses and fostering entrepreneurial activity throughout the Region. At this critical point in our nation’s history it is incumbent upon all of us to ensure the continued vitality of small business everywhere. This Region will redouble our efforts to do just that.”

The five states of Region VI include more than 548,000 square miles. In fiscal 2001, 5,075 guaranteed loans worth more than \$1.5 billion were approved for small businesses in Region VI. The regional office oversees district offices in Little Rock, Ark.; New Orleans, La.; Albuquerque, N.M.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Dallas/Fort Worth, El Paso, Harlingen, Houston, Lubbock, and San Antonio, Texas; and a branch office in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Montes, a business development and economic policy consultant, holds a bachelor’s degree in economics from George Washington University and completed graduate studies at the University de Navarra, Barcelona, Spain. Montes held previous positions in the U.S. government, including associate administrator, Office of Business Development at the SBA; special assistant at the U.S. Department of Interior; deputy director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact at the U.S. Department of Energy; and officer in charge of the Community Relations Service, and assistant program manager of the Criminal Division (Haiti) at the U.S. Department of Justice.

Montes is a native of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

For more information about all of the SBA’s programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800-U ASK SBA or TDD 704-344-6640. Also, visit the SBA’s extensive Web site at www.sba.gov.

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